

## Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN:DAV

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

IO:ROBLAKE

NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S - MR. FRY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T STATE 150968

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, IS, UN

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION WITH LEBANON RE POSSIBLE SC ACTION

REFERENCE: BEIRUT 7957

1. YOU MAY TELL FOREIGN MINISTER WE APPRECIATE HIS TAKING INITIATIVE TO CONSULT WITH US REGARDING POSSIBLE LEBANESE RECOURSE TO SECURITY COUNCIL. WE UNDERSTAND PRESSURES GOL OPERATES UNDER AND ARE SYMPATHETIC ABOUT THEIR PROBLEMS. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR HOWEVER THAT WE SEE LITTLE UTILITY AND MUCH RISK IN GOL'S CALLING FOR SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF INDIVIDUAL INCIDENTS IN CYCLE OF VIOLENCE BETWEEN LEBANON AND ISRAEL. OF COURSE WE CAN MAKE NO SPECIFIC JUDGEMENT IN ADVANCE OF EVENTS AND EACH CASE WILL BE EXAMINED ON ITS MERITS AND ACCORDING TO CIRCUMSTANCES. IN MOST PAST INSTANCES, HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN CAUSE-EFFECT

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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FEDAYEEN ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL

APPARENTLY FROM BASES IN LEBANON AND ISRAELI STRIKES INSIDE LEBANON. THIS SERIOUSLY WEAKENS LEBANON'S CASE AND MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN FRIENDS OF LEBANON TO GIVE GOL AS MUCH SUPPORT AS WE WOULD LIKE.

2. YOU SHOULD STRESS THAT BEST HOPE FOR PUTTING AN END TO CYCLE OF VIOLENCE BETWEEN LEBANON AND ISRAEL LIES IN CONTINUED PROGRESS IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON INDIVIDUAL INCIDENT TEND TO DIVERT ATTENTION AND ENERGIES OF U.S. AND OTHER GENEVA PARTICIPANTS FROM TASK OF PREPARING FOR NEXT STAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS, OPEN UP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO SEE OUR INITIATIVE FAIL, AND REQUIRE PARTIES TO TAKE POSITIONS WHICH TOO OFTEN MAKE THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION MORE DIFFICULT. THUS, FOREIGN MINISTER SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT TOO READY RECOURSE TO SECURITY COUNCIL COULD WELL RESULT IN PROLONGATION, RATHER THAN RESOLUTION, OF LEBANON'S DIFFICULTIES WITH ISRAEL.

3. YOU MAY ADD THAT WE THINK LEBANESE HANDLED THEMSELVES WITH COMMENDABLE SKILL IN RECENT ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTERS MEETING. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY PROMISE GIVEN GOL BY FATAH AND SAIQA TO REFRAIN FROM TERRORISM FROM LEBANON. WE STRONGLY HOPE THAT, WITH THIS COMMITMENT FROM TWO MAJOR PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN HAND, GOL WILL PURSUE VIGOROUSLY ITS EFFORTS TO REIN IN RADICAL PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS. FOR OUR PART, WE WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS WITH ISRAELIS, OF WHICH GOL IS AWARE, TO CALM SITUATION. CONTINUED QUIET ON PART OF FEDAYEEN WILL OF COURSE GREATLY STRENGTHEN OUR HAND IN THIS REGARD. KISSINGER

SECRET

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